

Message Text

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10

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 CPR-01 OES-03 NASA-01 /035 W

----- 076290

R 090900Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1781

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, SP

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF MOON FLAG TO GENERAL FRANCO

REF: STATE 102670

1. SIMILAR PRESENTATIONS WERE MADE PREVIOUSLY, AS INDICATED BELOW:

A. AMBASSADOR RIVERO PRESENTED GENERAL FRANCO WITH LUNAR ROCK, SPANISH FLAG WHICH HAD BEEN ON MOON, ACCOMPANIED BY LETTER FROM PRESIDENT NIXON ON JULY 10, 1973.

B. NASA DIRECTOR DR. JAMES C. FLETCHER PRESENTED SPANISH FLAG WHICH HAD BEEN ON MOON TO PRINCE JUAN CARLOS ON MAY 10, 1974.

2. PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT CARLOS ARIAS NAVARRO WOULD APPEAR TO BE REMAINING PRINCIPAL PERSONALITY THUS FAR NOT SO HONORED. WHILE WE WELCOME IRWIN'S VISIT TO MADRID, WE QUESTION TIMELINESS OF SUCH A GIFT NOW, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF PRESENTATIONS ALREADY MADE. MOREOVER, AS IRWIN VISIT WILL PRECEDE PRESIDENT'S BY ONLY FEW DAYS, QUESTION WHETHER WE WOULD BE ABLE TO ARRANGE APPROPRIATEMENT WITH ARIAS.

3. FINALLY, WE UNDERSTAND THAT IRWIN IS NO LONGER WITH SPACE PROGRAM, WHICH RAISES QUESTION AS TO WHETHER HE IS

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PRESENTING FLAG IN HIS OWN BEHALF OR SOME PRIVATE GROUP

WITH WHICH HE IS ASSOCIATED. WE ASSUME PRESENTATION WOULD
NOT BE IN BEHALF USG.

4. PLEASE ADVISE.
STABLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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Subject: PRESENTATION OF MOON FLAG TO GENERAL FRANCO
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